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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of Brian W. Ward et al.
Serial No.: 09/610,935
Filed: July 6, 2000
Confirmation No. 5148
For: TARGET REAGENTS THAT ENHANCE REACTION-PRODUCT ANALYSIS
Examiner: Bradley L. Sisson

Art Unit: 1655

February 11, 2003

AMENDMENT C

RECEIVED

FEB 19 2003

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Sir:

In response to the Office action issued on September 11, 2002 (Paper No. 17), please enter the following amendments:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 11, 13, and 14:

11. (twice amended) A composition comprising a thermostable DNA polymerase for an *ex-vivo* polymerase reaction in which a nucleic acid polymer product complementary to a nucleic acid polymer template is prepared, and detectible anionic tracer dye compatible with the thermostable DNA polymerase, the composition being substantially free of the nucleic acid polymer template and having an optical density of about 5 to about 500 at a visible wavelength of maximal tracer absorbance.

13. (twice amended) The composition of claim 11 having a density of about 0.01 g/cm³ greater than the density of an analytical liquid phase to 0.14 g/cm³ greater than the density of an analytical liquid phase.